

Declaration of Roger E. Snyder

Attachment 1

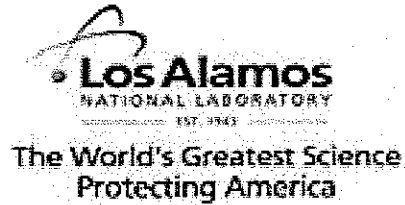


Proceedings from CMRR Public Meetings

The following volumes and posters are available in pdf.

- Volume 1 - March 9, 2006 (LA-UR-06-6199)
- Volume 2 - September 19, 2006 (LA-UR-07-0684)
- Volume 3 - March 14, 2007 (LA-UR-07-3583)
- Volume 4 - September 26, 2007 (LA-UR-08-0357)
- Volume 5 - March 25, 2008 (LA-UR-08-04500)
- Volume 6 - September 16, 2008 (LA-UR-09-00620)
- Volume 7 - March 10, 2009 (LA-UR-09-02749)
- Volume 8 - September 23, 2009 (LA-UR-10-00676)
- Volume 9 - March 3, 2010 (LA-UR-10-02173)

Agenda



CMRR Public Meeting
Thursday, March 9th, 2006
Fuller Lodge
6:30 – 8:30

6:30 – 6:45	Welcome Ground rules Briefing on Public Comment Provisions Background and Purpose Introductions	Rosemary Romero
6:45 – 7:15	CMRR Project Overview CMRR Environmental Aspects	Tim Nelson Steve Fong
7:15 – 7:30	Question and Answer	Rosemary Romero
7:30 – 8:25	Public Comment	Rosemary Romero
8:25 – 8:30	Requests for topics for next meeting	Rosemary Romero
8:30	Next meeting announcement and adjourn	Steve Fong

DOE Host: Steve Fong

LANL Technical Host: Tim Nelson

LANL Environmental Outreach: Lorrie Bonds Lopez, Debora Hall: 667-2211, envoutreach@lanl.gov

Agenda



CMRR Public Meeting
Tuesday, September 19th, 2006
Fuller Lodge
6:30 – 8:30

6:30 – 6:45	Welcome Ground rules Briefing on Public Comment Provisions Background and Purpose Introductions	Ed Moreno
6:45 – 7:00	Project Overview	Steve Fong Tim Nelson
7:00 – 7:10	Environment, Safety & Health Update	Steve Fong
7:10 – 7:20	Overview of Air Permit Application	Bill Blankenship
7:20 – 7:30	Seismic Investigation Update	Mike Salmon
7:30 – 8:15	Question, Answer and Public Comment	Ed Moreno
8:15 – 8:25	Requests for topics for next meeting	Ed Moreno
8:30	Adjourn	Steve Fong

Agenda



CMRR Public Meeting
Wednesday, March 14th, 2007
Fuller Lodge
6:30 – 8:30

6:30 – 6:45	Welcome Ground rules Briefing on Public Comment Provisions Background and Purpose Introductions	Rosemary Romero
6:45 – 7:00	CMRR Project, Environmental Protection	Tori George
7:00 – 7:30	CMRR Overview & Project Update	Craig Bachmeier
7:30 – 8:15	Question, Answer and Public Comment	Rosemary Romero
8:15 – 8:25	Requests for topics for next meeting	Rosemary Romero
8:30	Adjourn	Craig Bachmeier

[Slide 3]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Ground rules. I love ground rules. My children used to say that I was the queen of options, but they are pretty simple ground rules. I don't like too many of them, but they are simple. Listen respectfully. Share the air time with other participants. I encourage folks to look around to see who else is talking and share that time with each other 'cause we've got about an hour plus, but still it goes pretty quickly. Um, and hold your hand up and I'll call on you. What's not up here is, if you would please also say your name when you speak. This'll be, this is audio recorded, as you can see, or hear, rather. Um, and people do listen to the tapes. I heard somebody say earlier that the, it was very clear and, and uh, the only thing that was missing was that folks sometimes forgot to say who they were. Turn off your cell phones. I muted mine. Just because it's awful to hear those rings. Um, hopefully people, go back to the respect. If you are respectful, then there are no personal attacks. And then, speaking slowly and clearly, um, because we are audiotaping this evening.

[Pause]

[Slide 4]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Sometimes it's difficult to read off of this, but I'm just gonna' read off the uh, the slide here. I'm losing it, I tell you, it's nap time. The background and purpose: why we're here this evening. This is the settlement allowing for air permitting to be segmented to match the phased project. So this is an update for folks on the project development and for public involvement. And I said earlier that this is the third public meeting, but there's other opportunities for people to respond via written comments also. But this is an opportunity to really hear from each other through the presentations, hear from each other, clarifications—sometimes there's miscommunication that occurs, so these public meetings are a great opportunity for people to have a dialog with each other. The parties that are included in this are the New Mexico Environment Department. Do we have anybody here from the Environment Department? Okay.

[GREG MELLO: LOS ALAMOS STUDY GROUP]

[They'll show up.]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

They'll probably show up?

[GREG MELLO]

[Inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

This was announced in the—I saw it in the *New Mexican* and the *Journal*, I believe, so this was announced for folks so it'll, hopefully others will show up. We don't have to ask for the Department of Energy, University of California, Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety. Any representatives in the audience?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

No.

[TIM NELSON]

So for Phase C. [Pause]—which is, will answer your question for ML-1. [Pause]
That has not been determined. That went out for a contractor, um, to go build that building
yet.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[TIM NELSON]

There are alternative— You know, there's a number of things they are looking at, in the
design phases, that's how to make the concrete.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Great. Thank you. [pause] I'm gonna hold the mike here. Um, other questions from folks?
And we can always come back. I'm sure there's more in the book.

[DON BROWN]

Yeah, there are.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

All right.

[GREG MELLO, LOS ALAMOS STUDY GROUP]

Let's see, I've got a couple.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Greg, if you would say your name please.

[GREG MELLO]

Greg Mello.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Thanks.

[GREG MELLO]

Um, is there, um, five. Um, is there, and I know the likely answer, but see if we can find an
unlikely answer. Is there a publicly available mission analysis for, um, the, for all phases of
the project that would kind of, that would, um, break down the building requirements by
mission sub-element and enable us to see why the buildings are being built the way they are,
and why the cost is what it is, and, so forth? And, so, for example, if the plutonium pit
production mission, um, does not stay here, members of congress have suggested that this
project is, um— well their phrase is “irrational,” or “stupid,” I think, both have been used by
committee chairmen about this project. Um, “absurd” was another one that was used. But, if,
so it would be reasonable for there to be a response to that to show that the mission elements

were robust with respect to possible changes of mission, um, and, so I would like to know whether something like that is available for us.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Steve [Fong] should we give you the mike? And we'll get the other one for you [Craig].

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Steve Fong will tackle that one.

[STEVE FONG, PROJECT MANAGER, LOS ALAMOS AREA OFFICE, DOE]

Hi Greg. This is Steve Fong with the federal project team with NNSA. So Greg, what's publishly available, available publicly, that gets to your question, in terms of response to that, is the programmatic EIS [Environmental Impact Statement], which assigns the capability and that was 1996, and then the current draft SWEIS [Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement] of '99, and the proposed draft that's coming out. That's what's, uh, basically, uh, develops our mission need for this capability. So that's what we were relying on. There are other sub-tiered project-specific type of documents that go into detail—functional, operational type of requirements, programmatic requirements, but those aren't publicly available.

[GREG MELLO]

How? What class? Are they UCNI-ed?

Are they? What are, what is there? UCNI [unclassified nuclear information]?

[STEVE FONG]

UCNI. For the most part.

[GREG MELLO]

Okay.

[STEVE FONG]

When it gets down to that level, uh, when we get down to specifics.

[GREG MELLO]

All right.

[STEVE FONG]

But they're all summarized within our EIS documentation.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. You had other questions Greg?

[GREG MELLO]

Um, the, um the CMR makes, you mean, so the CMR is coming to the end of its life. PF-4 is also not as old a building, but it was run very hard in the 1980s and is now the subject of a reinvestment project, um, that the cost of which has not been revealed to congress yet. Um, it, it is being introduced to congress in phases, um, but it has some really scary things in there like electrical, mechanical, roof, um, and it looks to me like that is, I mean Paul Cunningham

used to say, we had \$300 million in deferred maintenance at TA-55. Um, so, is there a document describing the TA-55 reinvestment project which can be made available so that we can see the full scope of the ancillary projects that give meaning and make it possible for the CMRR to fulfill its mission?

[STEVE FONG]

This is Steve Fong again. Um, Greg, I am not aware, being not responsible for those activities on the [TA-]55 reinvestment project. There is a project, you are correct, to do, um, and work off that deferred maintenance as you were speaking of. The— I believe, and I may be wrong, but the, the activities are summarized in the updated SWEIS that's going on at this point. Um, I would check there for that information. I do not know of any other detailed documents that would summarize what's going on out there. Tim [Nelson], do you know of any?

[TIM NELSON]

The only other thing that might be out there, which I'm sure you're familiar with Greg, is the construction project data sheet, the stuff that goes to congress in terms of dollars.

[STEVE FONG]

Yeah, that's—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

And the information on the EIS or SWEIS are probably on line. He was asking for documentation, so they're probably somewhere where you could find them. I think that's what you referred to Steve?

[STEVE FONG]

That is correct. This is Steve again, and I know Greg probably knows where to get that

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[STEVE FONG, CONTINUING]

and if he doesn't, I'm sure Greg will contact me.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Great. I was just confirming. Thanks.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

[Inaudible words]

[GREG MELLO]

I don't think that information is in there,

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[GREG MELLO, CONTINUING]

but I will triple check. Um, okay, I have one, then, the last three questions. One of 'em's about cooling in Phase C, and one of 'em is, two of them are [about] ventilation. Um—

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Phase C.

[GREG MELLO]

So phase, I guess cooling first. Ah, how is the vault going to be cooled and how is the cooling going to be robust with respect to, um, power failures or other natural disasters.

[STEVE FONG]

Yes, there is cooling in the vault, that is still being assessed and alternatives are, are under way. So I think all alternatives are, are fair game, but I'm not sure if I'd go into the details of any of that stuff. But, indeed that has the attention of our safety analysts as well as the Defense Board to make sure that we come up with the right design solution. So, we're still coming up and weighing alternatives in that area.

[GREG MELLO]

Okay. [Pause] And then,— You are probably, I don't whether you were— There was a project involving a vault that eventually failed because of a lack of a good part, lack of a good cooling solution that, that was compatible with security, and, so forth.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

So Craig, is the encouragement that while alternatives are being developed that really look carefully at the cooling because of other examples?

[GREG MELLO]

Yeeesss. Um, that, a lot, I think about a \$166 million have already been spent on Phase C, and um, the, we don't have solution to the problem which doomed the PF-41, ah, after expenditure of many millions there, and, in general, because the site is cramped, this leads to the idea of cramming more work and more material in a small space, which raises cooling loads and raises concerns about criticality in seismic events. The preferred solution that, at the time that we looked at the nuclear materials storage facility, was, all involved basically spreading plutonium out in a larger area. But this site is a small area, and so it raises, it makes it a difficult design and, um, that's, anyway.

[GREG MELLO]

The third, the last two questions about ventilation. Um, 8.4 grams of plutonium-239 is approximately 10^5 fatal lung cancer doses, and, so, it's a dangerous material and presumably there will be some sort of ventilation zoning in the building even though it was described as commercial, but really surely it's much more than commercial and, um, so, that's my first question. The second question is: will this ventilation be safety class and is the Defense Safety Board, after I know there've been many conversations, dozens and dozens, are, are they happy, ah, with, fully happy with the ventilation system? I'll be at the hearing on the 22nd, so I guess I could ask'em, but, um, [do] you think they are happy?

[STEVE FONG]

I'll let Craig answer the first part of that question.

[Tape being turned over. Several words missed.]

[TIM NELSON]

.... um, the Defense Board interest in the rad lab ventilation system essentially, not the issue that you're alluding to—

[GREG MELLO]

I see it.

[TIM NELSON, CONTINUING]

which is really related to the nuclear facility.

[GREG MELLO]

Okay. Thank you.

[TIM NELSON]

Um, in the context of the rad lab— This is Tim Nelson. In the context of the rad lab and the ventilation system, we've actually exceeded the requirements of the rad lab. What is normally expected, if you went to DOE requirements, stuff like that, by putting in a HEPA [high efficiency particulate air filter] filtration system, similar to what is in the nuclear facility, and it does have zones of negativity for ventilation. That's not a requirement.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[TIM NELSON]

That's correct.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Do you want to add anything Craig?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

No.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

That answered Greg's question.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

All right.

[JONI ARENDS]

About the measurements, the measurements, you know, and if you've taken the measurements in those areas. [Aside to Scott Kovac.] What's the word, Scott?

[TIM NELSON]

This is Tim again. I understand your question. And that's really, um, I'm gonna say, a little less, CMRR project-specific type of response.

[JONI ARENDS]

But we brought up this—

[TIM NELSON]

—the institutions can certainly—

[JONI ARENDS]

Yeah.

[TIM NELSON]

I would expect, release that information at some point in time.

[JONI ARENDS]

And we missed Mike's presentation last time because the draft LANL SWEIS comments were due on the night of the meeting and we would ask that these meetings be thought out a little bit more so it's not our third public meeting of the day. Um, and then it's not on a day when comments are due on an important document.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[JONI ARENDS]

We would appreciate that, that there be a little bit more care for the, for scheduling these meetings.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

So, I've got— Greg, also with a followup.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

[Inaudible words]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. Thanks Joni. [Pause] You just have to say your name again, Greg.

[GREG MELLO]

This is Greg Mello. Um, I'm not gonna' come up with the special words either, but I'm just gonna concur with the importance of it, and— There was a lecture by LANL's lead seismologist in public, uh, where he talked about the findings of the subsequent research since the previous probabilistic seismic hazard assessment, um, and the probability of

earthquakes, of magnitude greater than 6.5, um, that was discussed, um, if you sorta process the numbers slightly, it's, it's, I got, um, I mean, it's slightly interpretive—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Um hm.

[GREG MELLO, CONTINUING]

—on my part, but it's about 27 times more likely than in the CMRR EIS. And that's more than an order of magnitude, between one and two orders of magnitude, and the, so there are questions about the adequacy of the, certainly the environmental impact statement, and the, the DNFSB [Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board] has brought up that the project is, there's some risk to the project for going ahead with design prior to the conclusion of the probabilistic seismic hazard assessment. The previous one being so very many years old, I think '96 or, somebody help me—

[GREG MELLO]

'98. Yeah.

[TOM WHITAKER]

[Inaudible before gets mike]

[TOM WHITAKER]

I'm Tom Whitaker. And—I've got some info—kinda working on the seismic hazards assessment update. Ah, we should be having a final report sometime in the May/June timeframe. So there's draft final reports going out for review. We're following a standardized process that DOE has developed with NRC [Nuclear Regulatory Commission], with independent oversight, independent review, as well as informal participation by the Defense Board. So we've had a full vetted process that we've just documented. The report should come out, probably, like I said, May/June time frame. And my understanding is that the report will actually talk, it'll be four or five different locations at LANL will actually have ground motion data, you know, accelerations to earthquakes at each location. We'll have one at TA-16, TA-3, TA-55, and CMRR specific. And as far as the, uh, preliminary data has been generated for the report for the CMRR project, so, the design input for seismic, um, we have a draft final version that is provided to the design team, so the most recent information on the seismic hazards, eh, will be incorporated into the nuclear facility and SFE [special facilities equipment] design. So the information is being incorporated to address those concerns.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. Sounds like the September meeting is gonna be lots of information coming forward. All right. Others? Yes?

[DON BROWN]

Your comment—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

You just have to say your name.

[JONI ARENDS]

Well, what document was it? Was it the draft SWEIS that said that you were gonna bring in a whole bunch of sealed sources? And that they were gonna to be stored in the CMR? Like a whole bunch of them?

[TIM NELSON]

I'm not aware of that. I'm know of what sealed sources are, but I'm not aware of a program to do that. That's, I, it could be—

[JONI ARENDS]

Yeah.

[TIM NELSON, CONTINUING]

—because I don't know everything that's going on at the Lab.

[JONI ARENDS]

Yeah. Yeah. Well, it's the Off-Site Source Recovery Program.

[TIM NELSON]

Right.

[JONI ARENDS]

And something said recently like you were going to bring in a whole bunch of them and store them at the CMR. And then there was other talk about doing the RH [remote handled] work in the CMR?

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Some GNEP [Global Nuclear Energy Partnership]?

[JONI ARENDS]

Or some GNEP?

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Hot cell?

[JONI ARENDS]

Yeah. Some hot cell work with the GNEP? So, you know, let's just put that on the table that it doesn't look like the CMR is going away. It would be good to have an update of the activities at the CMR at the next meeting.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. 'Cause it doesn't sound like we're gonna get it resolved here; but the next meeting. Okay. All right.

[GREG MELLO]

Let's [becomes inaudible]

[JONI ARENDS]

Don, did you want to renew your question about what the life of the CMR was designed for?

[Don Brown]

Uh, yeah. I'd like to get some results—[speech becomes inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Oh, hold on Don. Let me—

[DON BROWN]

—with the life span of the original—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Wait a second, because we do record this, and

[DON BROWN]

Oh.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

So that's why it's important to make sure that we hear the question. And who you are again. Sorry.

[DON BROWN]

This is Don Brown. And, and Greg [sic, Craig], maybe you or someone with the NNSA could take a look and see what that original lifespan was for that facility and, you know, I think we'd all like to feel, ah, secure, that, that we have not expanded that life, that lifespan and that we might be at risk if we try and continue operations.

[TIM NELSON]

So this is Tim Nelson again. In the 1999 risk management strategy, and Craig had this on his slides but he didn't point it out. Um, the planned end of life currently is around 2010 for the CMR Building. Um, with respect to the operations that it has right now. We know that the CMRR nuclear facility can't be build by 2010. That's one of the reasons why the project was split up into multiple phases, such as the rad lab, the radiological lab, the RLUOB that Craig's working on, which was the majority of the presentation tonight, actually will be operating by 2010, and some of the operations from the CMR Building will be moved to that building, um, such that we planned if the Laboratory's intent is reduced, the operating footprint of the existing CMR Building, and reduce that as much as possible until the CMRR nuclear facility comes on line.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

You had a followup to that?

[GREG MELLO]

I did. I think that there's, uh, not, um— There's two things being talked about and they are kinda being conflated. And so, when they are talked about the next time maybe they could be separated. Um, they will have to do with the future of the CMR Building. Um, it could operate as a nuclear facility. And it could operate with different amounts of material at risk,

so that's one type of question about the future. But then it also could operate as a radiological facility and not have more than 8.4 grams of plutonium-239 equivalent. That would be another type of future for the CMR Building, in which case it would somewhat compete with the mission of the rad lab, [for] which we now have an excavation. And then in previous plans it's also been discussed to use the CMR Building for other purposes altogether, um, for an office building, um, for biological work that was also at one time discussed, and so, I guess, this is really to just agree with Joni [Arends] that there actually have been a lot of possible uses for the CMR Building, um, discussed in some relatively recent time frame.

[JONI ARENDS]

So, my understanding was, the next meeting there's going to be more of an update. Is that true?

[TIM NELSON]

Um, I understood what you said. I didn't really get a question out of it.

[GREG MELLO]

Okay, the question is we should, that we're a little bit confused about all these different possibilities—

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Right.

[GREG MELLO, CONTINUING]

—for the CMR Building and we need it broken out in, I would like it to be broken out in detail. And I don't know, um, I know that we're tending at this point to talk about the next meeting. This is not useful for me.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Yeah.

[GREG MELLO]

I would like all the answers to all these questions now, really. Um, the CMRR EIS was kind of, ah, ya' know, it had 33 different alternatives if you added 'em all up together, it described basically nothing. Ah, so that it was a, you know, kinda this broad envelope approach to EIS that drains the specific content out and follows the letter of the law without actually providing very much useful information whatsoever. So there's a huge information gap which we need to cover, and I know that there's this framework of these quarterly meetings, and so forth, but it isn't enough.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Right. And here's what I've captured, it is, we've got it recorded, but there's some things I didn't think there's answers to that I wanted to make sure that the next meeting, that if we haven't answered it here, and I'm hearing, let's get as much as we can answered here, but if we can't, then there's more information that needs to come forward. There's the next quarterly meeting, but then you're hoping that there'd be even more in between 'cause September is pretty far down the road? Okay.

[GREG MELLO]

You know, by the time you meet quarterly, all the decisions are made and it just becomes a kind of a spectator sport.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. So, I don't know if there was an answer. Steve?

[TIM NELSON]

I can answer—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. Great.

[TIM NELSON]

So one of the things you brought up was using the existing CMR Building as a radiological facility. Um, actually, um, to go back to some factoids associated with the existing CMR Building. It's the largest building at the Laboratory. It's 550,000 gross square feet. To use that building as a radiological facility based on the state of where it is now is not a good business case decision. It actually would cost a lot more money, uh, to upgrade that facility to continue to use it for some extended time period. If you wanted to compare CMRR radiological facility of a design life of 50 years, it's not economical to use that building as a radiological facility.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Steve?

[STEVE FONG]

Very good. I think I also understand your question. This is Steve Fong. I just wanted to state that in the Record of Decision, as well as in our last Critical Decision, NNSA has gone on record to say that we will D&D that facility once the CMR facility, CMRR facility comes on line. So at this point, there is a Record of Decision stating that we will not continue operations in this current CMR facility. Things may change, of course. There might be debate. But, that's our current plans.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[GREG MELLO]

Yeah, yeah.

[STEVE FONG]

And also, this is a CMRR project update. We are focused on this capital investment that's outlined here. Um, you're just catching a bunch of project guys talking about programmatic stuff that we are aware of, but we, we don't spend our day-to-day, basis y'know trying to figure out what's going on in the CMR facility.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Craig, could you just say who you are so we don't think it's Greg Mello on the tape?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

This is Craig. Craig Bachmeier.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Thank you. Thank you. Only 'cause we kept looking at Greg. All right. Others?

[Pause]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Here's what I've been doing. As, as folks know, I'm gonna put this mike back here. Um, these sessions are recorded and they are actually, um, written up verbatim. And so some of the cryptic notes I took were just to refer back, when we look at some of the things that we need to pull out of, there's followup, and I know Deb's [Hall] been taking really good notes also.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Some of the issues for the September meeting. I heard a couple of things, which are, there's the September meeting which is a followup, which is one of the public meetings, and that will be updating folks. Greg [Mello], I also heard there's, that's way down the road and maybe there's something in between and I'm not sure if that's possible. But, um, one of the things that I always do, was trying to capture some of the things that needed to come back to the September meeting. Um, Joni [Arends], the issue about scheduling the September meeting so it doesn't coincide with other meetings, may be a little hard to judge now, but this is something we should keep an eye out for, is if there's, if there's a date that's like a Tuesday rather than a Wednesday that makes a difference on the number of meetings that folks attend, that would make a difference. Um, I'm sure there's others in here, but I wanted to make sure that, here's some of the other ones, was, um, an update of the next, for the next meeting, one of the updates would be on the timeline or schedule. You know, where are we? And I'm sure that folks know that that's one of the things that needs to come back. Um, the lifespan of the CMR Building. I wasn't sure if that was quite where you were heading Don [Brown], but it was more information on this issue of lifespan, CMR, where we are now, and I think there's been quite a few questions related to that. There's others in here. Anything that I'm gonna pull out. But others, other things that we might talk about in September, agenda items? Don?

[Pause]

[DON BROWN]

I would like to simply ask, and then next meeting, y'know—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Thank you.

[TIM NELSON]

So what I said was, we are doing criticality analysis, right? Um, we would not, we would not, um, I'll say, think that we have, on a normal occurrence, a criticality event. But that's a different discussion. So, a criticality event is not an explosive situation. You don't blow things up. It's not a thermonuclear weapon, if you will. Um, and if you looked at the events historically that have occurred relative to criticality, um, the emissions associated with that are essentially more locally contained, but relative to the question that you are asking, the structure and the other parts of the facility that do containment, um, would, would essentially limit any off-site dose consequence, which I think is what you're really asking.

[DON BROWN]

Yeah, that's, that's a part of it. And the reason I asked that question, ah, I was kinda surprised when we looked at TA-18. The risks of TA-18 have been removed. But I was, you know, from my background in nuclear, I was surprised that the Defense Board's own estimates showed a thousand rems off-site exposure at the center of White Rock that you did not have a, some type of a containment structure that, which would mitigate those consequences on TA-18. Therefore, I ask the question today, if we have the capability of a criticality incident, which could occur at the CMRR building, and not knowing what those values would be, uh, do you have any provisions for the design, especially in Phase 3, or B or A, if they could—if those, if that facility should have some type of a containment structure. That's my question.

[TIM NELSON]

We do.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. And I'm not adding it to the next-time list. It's what it sounds like. Greg?

[GREG MELLO]

Um, one for the next time, and then I have a question for—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[GREG MELLO, CONTINUING]

—for the next time, um, I wasn't satisfied with the answer that the functional requirements for, that are determining the nature of these building were not public information. I think they should be. And I think they can be. And I think a way, even though they may be at the moment contained in documents which are UNCI, uh, when I worked at the Environment Department, every well log that came from Los Alamos was stamped "UCNI." And, uh, in my office they all went in the same drawer. But um, we, I think we need to think about how to communicate the functional, the detailed functional requirements and operations within these buildings, and so that we can know what's going to happen in here, and whether it should happen, and why it should happen. You know we've ah, so—

[GREG MELLO]

Then my next question, my real question for tonight, is, this: the rad lab building would house 350 office spaces. How many workers are anticipated to be in the nuclear facility, and how many workers are in, um, the other buildings of PF-4 approximately, today?

[TIM NELSON]

This is Tim Nelson again. Um, essentially analysis associated with the existing CMR Building showed about 350 people in that building. That's where the office number came from. So there is a lot of those people that are in support functions. Secretaries, administrative, and stuff like that. So it's not 350 people that would necessarily work in the nuclear facility building. But that would give you an upper limit.

[GREG MELLO]

So, 350 for both? For both buildings?

[TIM NELSON]

Yeah. The people's office space is actually in the rad lab. We didn't put their office space in the nuclear facility.

[GREG MELLO]

Okay. And today, in PF-4 there are? [Pause] And, but there's all these other, there's an office building to the north, and— It's kinda complicated—

[TIM NELSON]

Yeah. I understand your question. I'm, um, I would only be guessing to say what the number is. It's, I would say more, probably would be the best I could do.

[GREG MELLO]

Thank you.

[TIM NELSON]

There's more people at TA-55 than what we're putting [in there].

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Good guess. All right. Joni [Arends]?

[JONI ARENDS]

Ahm, so Greg, —

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

You just have to say "Joni Arends."

[JONI ARENDS]

Joni Arends. Ah, Greg Mello. They said at the, um, during the negotiations for these meetings to be set up that they were gonna to bring people from, in the office space at [TA-]55 over as well. Into this office building. So, but I don't know how many people are in those, in those buildings. But, um, Rose, Rosemary, so it looks like, um, I wanted to say

thank you for your, for your work, because it appears that the tension that we had before about acknowledging the agreement that, um, brought these meetings forth—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Yeah.

[JONI ARENDS, CONTINUING]

—has changed. And we appreciate— we assume that you've been instrumental in that and we appreciate it very much. And we appreciate getting the documents, the PowerPoint® and the, um,—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Good.

[JONI ARENDS, CONTINUING]

—summary from the September meeting about a month ago. So, that was really great. And so we acknowledge the work of the Laboratory to move things forward, um, in terms of public outreach.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Good.

[JONI ARENDS]

Thank you.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Thank you. Appreciate it. All right. So it looks like September is gonna be a really full schedule. And my sense is that we'll bring other people in as we need to. You know on the agenda, by golly I'm sure that you'll be part of the agenda, um, in September. But it seems that, um, as we start to come up with information we'll build the agenda with maximum input. I think there's enough time. Um, I think Lorrie [Bonds Lopez] has also done some conference calls with folks, but there's plenty of time to check in to see if there's other things that we need to add to this list. Um, is it advertised well enough for folks to see it? I mean, I think a notice goes out, and then there's advertisements in the newspaper, so, that seems to be working. Okay.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS]

[Inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

No? Nope?

[GREG MELLO]

No.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

No. Okay, so what else would work, Greg?

[GREG MELLO]

The *Los Alamos Monitor* didn't know about this meeting.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. So part of our homework is to figure out Los Alamos—

[TIM NELSON]

[Inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

The reporter was here.

[GREG MELLO]

[Inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[GREG MELLO]

Because I told him.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[GREG MELLO]

Today.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. We will remind earlier rather than later. Okay, good. That's good to know. Thank you. All right. Anything else from folks? There is an evaluation. I'm hoping that you signed in. There's an evaluation that is helpful to us, to help guide the meetings. So I hope that you'll fill that out. Um, any closing words? Really appreciate the presentations, Craig [Bachmeier] and Tori [George]. Um, and others, um, as, who interjected as you needed to. So, anything else from folks before we close? Greg?

[GREG MELLO]

Um, I'd like to thank all of you and the project people too. You know, we don't want you to build this project, but we do appreciate that you are trying to do the best you can under the circumstances. And, um, when I lived in Livermore as a kid, my dad was project engineer on various projects at Livermore, and so this is a long time for our family. Um, and we, the other side of that, is we all live in a quite absurd situation and have to deal with the absurdity of our work in, from many different directions, relative, say to, global climate change. And so we're all in different aspects of this together. And I know that you don't take it personally even though we don't wanna—our organization doesn't want this building to be built.

Agenda



CMRR Public Meeting
Wednesday, September 26th, 2007
Best Western "Hilltop House", Los Alamos, NM
6:30 – 8:30

6:30 – 6:45	Welcome Ground rules Background Introductions	Ed Moreno
6:45 – 7:00	CMRR Project Overview & Update	Rick Holmes
7:00 – 7:30	CMRR RULOB Project & Environmental Update	Tom Whitacre
7:30 – 8:15	Question, Answer and Public Comment	Ed Moreno, Rick Holmes
8:15 – 8:25	Requests for topics for next meeting	Ed Moreno
8:30	Adjourn	Rick Holmes

Agenda



CMRR Public Meeting
Tuesday, March 25th, 2008
Fuller Lodge, Los Alamos, NM
6:30 – 8:30

6:30 – 6:45	Welcome Ground rules Briefing on Public Comment Provisions Background and Purpose Introductions	Rosemary Romero
6:45 – 7:00	CMRR Project Overview & Update	Rick Holmes
7:00 – 7:30	CMRR RLUOB Project & Environmental Update	Tom Whitacre
7:30 – 8:15	Presentation Questions & Answers Settlement Party Pre-Submitted Questions Additional Comments & Questions	Rosemary Romero
8:15 – 8:25	Requests for topics for next meeting	Rosemary Romero
8:30	Adjourn	Rick Holmes

Agenda



CMRR Public Meeting

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

**Fuller Lodge, Los Alamos, NM
6:30 – 8:30**

6:30 – 6:45 Table Topics & Posters – Discussion, Questions & Comments

- Geotechnical, Structural, Seismic & Engineering
- Project Information & Web Site
- Environment
- Construction, Safety & Quality
- Open Table for Settlement Agreement Parties

T. Whitacre, M. Salmon
G. Drexel, A. Orr
T. Ladino, N. Seguin
S. Overton, T. Wilde

6:45 – 7:00 Welcome Carl Moore, Facilitator
Ground Rules
Briefing on Public Comment Provisions
Background and Purpose
Introductions

7:00 – 7:30 CMRR Project Overview & Update

Mark Dinehart,
Gilbert Drexel

7:30 – 8:25 Return to Table Topics & Posters – Discussion, Questions & Comments
[Written comment forms available]
[Recorded comment area available]

8:25 – 8:30 Closure & Adjourn

Carl Moore, Facilitator

CMRR Public Meeting

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

**Best Western "Hilltop House", Los Alamos, NM
6:30 – 8:30p.m.**

6:30 – 6:40	Welcome	B. MacAllister
6:40 – 7:10	CMRR Project Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Overview and Background• Project Update	S. Fong R. Holmes
7:10 – 7:30	Questions	B. MacAllister
7:30 – 8:00	Settlement Parties Presentation	Settlement Parties
8:00 – 8:25	Questions	B. MacAllister
8:25 – 8:30	Closure & Adjourn	B. MacAllister

I'm Susan Terp. I'm with the Environmental Protection, Risk Reduction Office.

[TRISH WILLIAMS-MELLO, LOS ALAMOS STUDY GROUP]
Trish Williams-Mello with the Los Alamos Study Group.

[GREG MELLO, LOS ALAMOS STUDY GROUP]
Gregg Mello, Los Alamos Study Group.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]
Thank you, Greg.

[DAVID FUEHNE, ECOLOGY & AIR QUALITY, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION, LANL]
I'm David Fuehne with the Lab's air emissions monitoring program.

[EARL DUDA, LOS ALAMOS RESIDENT]
Earl Duda. I'm a resident of Los Alamos.

[BILL SLOAN, CITIZEN]
Bill Sloan. An interested citizen.

[TAUNIA WILDE, CMRR PROJECT]
Taunia Wilde, the CMRR Project.

[ROGER SNYDER, ACTING DEPUTY SITE OFFICE MANAGER FOR BUSINESS, ENVIRONMENT, AND SECURITY, LASO, NNSA]
Roger Snyder, here with the NNSA Site Office.

[DAVE JANECKY, ECOLOGY AND AIR QUALITY GROUP, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION, LANL]
Dave Janecky with the Ecology and Air Quality Group, LANL.

[TERRY WEBB, CMRR PROJECT]
Terry Webb. I work on the project at the Lab and am also a citizen of Los Alamos.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]
Thank you Terry.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]
Have we missed anyone? [Pause] Well, thank you for showing up this evening and we've got one other person. How can we forget?

[JONI ARENDS, CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR NUCLEAR SAFETY]
Joni Arends, Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety.

[STEVE FONG, PROJECT MANAGER, LOS ALAMOS SITE OFFICE, DOE]
Good evening. Um, the CMR[R] project. Well, first, about the acronym. Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building replacement project. CMRR. And we'll be using "CMRR" throughout this discussion. Uh, CMRR is a major systems acquisition. It's a large project for this site. We haven't seen anything of this sort, this size, for quite some time.

[STEVE FONG]

There's a component in Wing 9 called Large Vessel Handling, that, um, is included in the scope of the CMRR Building. That the project is, essentially in the program requirements document, requested to provide space to do large vessel handling. But the hot cells, which you might be familiar with, are not in the CMRR project, as an example.

[SCOTT KOVAC]
Thank you.

[STEVE FONG]
I think there was one more slide. Yeah.

[RICK HOLMES]
One more slide.

[STEVE FONG]
Yeah.

[RICK HOLMES]
The other question that, that came up that we included in your package is on the, the likely schedule of what we know today, and again this is a best estimate, ah, depending upon how fast funding flows and, and other decisions that might be made. I think the message here is that the, the preparation of the air permitting for the Lab's new source review, and then, included in that would be a batch plant for concrete to provide to the project, because the project needs a fairly significant amount of concrete at a fairly significant delivery rate, which that capacity does not yet exist on The Hill. And so, because of that, and for control, uh, we would put for the duration of the project, the, a batch plant in. And so that application would go in parallel with the laboratory process, or separate from it if one of those two gets changed. The bottom line is that, that preparation and discussion would occur sometime next year, based upon the, based upon the schedule we have. And in the input for construction of the building would occur late in calendar year '10, late next year.

[Pause]

[GREG MELLO, LOS ALAMOS STUDY GROUP]
Just another angle— Oh, Greg Mello, Los Alamos Study Group. Just another line of questioning that gets at the relationship between the two, um, buildings, the old one and the new one. Um, at the CMR, uh, we, the material at risk, material present in the building, let's say, in kilograms of plutonium, is in the single digits, let's say? Is that, you can't say, right? Um, how would you—

[RICK HOLMES]
I don't know what's in CMR.

[GREG MELLO]
Can, how would we characterize the number of orders of magnitude difference between the plutonium in the new building and the plutonium in the old building? I have three orders of magnitude. Is that about right?

[RICK HOLMES]
I, uh, think that's more a Tim—?

[STEVE FONG]

Yeah. It's probably more of a Tim question, but, to say that the CMR facility was currently designed, was designed as a nuclear facility in its own terms. And the standards and how you categorize them have changed over the years. We're replacing that, that old, the nuclear level of categorization in the CMRR facility. And what's, what's new, new capability in the CMRR facility, are vault spaces, and what you saw there, and which we've outlined in our, in our environmental impact statements, is six metric tons that we are going to store in the CMR[R] facility, CMRR facility. I have to get one more "R" out. I have to apologize. But, uh, Tim [Nelson], did you want to add to any more of that?

[TIM NELSON]

Tim Nelson. So, um, I'm gonna iterate a little bit of what Steve [Fong] said to try to answer your question. And, essentially the CMR Building was Security Cat-I, Hazard Category 2 facility. As the Laboratory and NNSA recognized the limitations of that building, relative to safety, they've reduced the quantities of material substantially, which is essentially what you are reflecting in your question. Um, but the charters of the project is "replace that original capability," which is in a Security Category I, Hazard Category 2, um, kind of nomenclature. In the EIS [Environmental Impact Statement] document, the six metric tons, total, is the limit in the building.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Um hm.

[GREG MELLO]

Would it be, um, I mean, Scott [Kovac] brought out that some of the CMR's shut down now. Um, and, we keep on being able to certify the stockpile, and do other things that the Laboratory's supposed to do. Wouldn't you say that the CMR, excuse me, the CMRR, ahm, reflects more a replacement of the aspirations, the original aspirations for the use of the CMR Building, rather than it's current level of use?

[TIM NELSON]

So, I'm gonna turn that over to NNSA. You're actually asking for an opinion.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Um hm.

[STEVE FONG]

For one, you have to always remember, we're the project. And, uh, there are programmatic requirements we're assigned by, at a headquarters level, and this information is analyzed and discussed. What is needed in terms of its work, its support capabilities, that, uh, the outside agencies that we support, uh, we try to meet their, their demands and their wants. Uh changes. Uhm, there's also— we also have to support, not only the nuclear weapons complex, but we hafta, we're the main chemistry support for the entire Laboratory. So anything that's nuclear chemistry, this is the facility that's gonna take, that is gonna take place. Even just with that mission, just the current mission of maintaining, uh, doing the surveillance, and doing the chemistry at this facility, you need this floor space. Now I say that. I'm not the one, I'm not the program that's there. I do know that our program has gone through many validations to assess that. Somebody might say, "Well, how many would you need to —if you were gonna just build one pit,— support?" We don't do that manufacturing in this facility. We simply support it. But then again, the floor space does not change. We find that, after you start getting up into the, the tens, or so, and that's well beyond what we're at, then you gotta start modifying looking at the floor space. But I'm not even gonna go there. I mean, that, it's just, we are the same mission that was assigned to us at the onset. Now, I'm probably bouncing all around this question, Greg [Mello], but, uh, again, the floor space has been validated. It's been validated to meet the requirements that have been assigned. It's just not me, from a project guide, but we had independent folks that are— that look at the needs, the needs of the Department [of Energy], the needs for NNSA, and they have validated that our floor space is judicious. It's not overly

extreme in terms of amount of square footage. They think it's about right for the current missions that have been assigned to NNSA. Now that's about all I can really say, being a project guy. And if you wanna pursue this further, I think we probably need to get some of the, the mission folks on it. Okay. That's about as far as I can go on that.

[GREG MELLO]

Okay.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER]

Before I take another question, uh, we kinda segue-wayed rather seamlessly into the questions? Are we okay?

[STEVE FONG]

We're good.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Okay. So—

[STEVE FONG]

We're good.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

This is for the group—

[BRUCE MACALLISTER]

Sir?

[JAY COGHLAN, NUCLEAR WATCH NEW MEXICO]

Thank you. Um,

[BRUCE MACALLISTER]

Your name sir?

[JAY COGHLAN]

Yeah. I'm Jay Coghlan with Nuclear Watch New Mexico. Um, I came in late, so forgive me if, uh, if my question's already been asked. So, Steve [Fong], I heard you loud and clear, you know, you got the CMRR nuclear facility essentially sized to requirements. Um, takes no genius to surmise that requirements are probably gonna change. Ah, and perhaps change dramatically. Um, now specifically, to give credit where credit's due, I think NNSA made a wise decision to postpone expanding pit production until the Obama administration conducts a, a new nuclear posture review. So, to get to the sizing, and why you need a nuclear facility at all, um, correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe the main missions for the nuclear facility would be materials characterization and analytical chemistry in support of pit production at PF-4. So, Tom D'Agostino [Undersecretary of Energy for Nuclear Security and NNSA Administrator] wrote to the Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board that materials characterization has already been moved to PF-4. To get to my specific question, why can't analytical chemistry also be moved to PF-4? Especially, this is my understanding, but each pit that is produced can require up to a hundred AC [analytical chemistry] samples. So if you are not expanding pit production, the need for analytical chemistry goes down exponentially. So all of this circles around to, what's the true need for the nuclear facility?

[TIM NELSON]

... management activities, materials disposition, which would be ARIES, those kinds of programs. Nonproliferation programs, uh, nuclear forensics would be an example of that. There's your materials and manufacturing technologies which have to do with pit manufacturing. Stockpile management, which has to do with certification of the stockpile. And, in general, nuclear materials. Handling, processing, and fabrication. You could put actinide R&D [research and development] in there as well. So, I can take one of these lines out. Pick one, pick this one, which is the one that you suggested, but I still need the analytical chemistry and materials characterization to do these other activities.

[JAY COGHLAN]

All of it?

[TIM NELSON]

Sure. Okay.

[JAY COGHLAN]

Uh, thank you. Now, first of all, in response to one thing,—and I apologize for my outburst,—but in the complex transformation SPEIS, NNSA stated over and over again that the nuclear facility was needed, was key to expanded pit production of 50 to 80 [pits per year], and with additional 9,000 square feet, then you could also go to 125 pits per year. But, you know, I can't help but regard this as a bit of a bait and switch. NNSA starts saying it's necessary, uh, for pit production. Now there's not pit production. Granted that there are other programs, but why can't those programs be housed in the light labs, for example, or at TA-48, or in PF-4? Uh, the nuclear facility, the need, is not clear to me. And [to] Congress as well.

[BRUCE MACCALLISTER]

... response.

[TIM NELSON]

That sounds like an NNSA question to me.

[Laughter]

[STEVE FONG]

... go back and forth. Uh, Jay [Coghlan], I think the SPEIS speaks for itself. Uh, again, I wanna speak for the project. We talk about project status. We do not assign the, the mission or the programmatic requirements. We're simply here to answer project status, project discussions. Uh, I realize this is the front end of the project, which we are all about. But again, all levels of assignments are contained within the SPEIS, and I think that speaks for itself. And I guess I'm not gonna be the one to speak for those. That would really be at a headquarters, mission-level.

[BRUCE MACCALLISTER]

Uh, based on our agenda, we're at the point where we wanted to give the, based on the agenda, the opportunity for, the, uh, presentation from the concerned citizens, concerned parties. Uh, are we comfortable that we can transition and retain the questions for later? Or, are there some that are so burning to this that we need to—

[GREG MELLO]

One burning question.

[BRUCE MACCALLISTER]

Can we agree on one burning question? Or—

[GREG MELLO]

[Inaudible words] right.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER]

—maybe two?

[Laughter]

[BRUCE MACALLISTER]

We'll, we'll move this along with dispatch, then, so we don't cheat the other presentation starting. Okay?

[GREG MELLO, LOS ALAMOS STUDY GROUP]

Greg Mello, Los Alamos Study Group. Jay's [Coghlan] comment was— I agree very much with the comment about TA-48. Missing from the analysis here is, uh, a look at the Laboratory's overall analytical capabilities. Its other radiological facilities, its other labs, and their missions and how those all shake down, and, um, it is not fully clear, I mean, it's not clear you need them all. And, so.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Thank you [Inaudible word or two].

[GREG MELLO]

And, finally, about ARIES. Um, I'm not sure that any of us know what the missions of this building are. And I know you guys are really conscientious, but, uh, we don't know that the pit conversion and disassembly facility is gonna to be built at Savannah River. We don't know the future of that facility. We don't know the future of many things. And, the model we use after nineteen years of involvement in this, in the CMR-related issues, Joni [Arends] also nineteen years, and Jay [Coghlan], um, that these buildings, as you've explained, are sort of like big boxes. Most of the effort, most of the square footage, is in the core utilities that make them operate at all. So, um, they become flexible boxes into which missions can be put, and those can change.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER]

And one last comment and we'll—

[SCOTT KOVAC]

My name's Scott Kovac, with Nuke Watch New Mexico. I'm actually giving the interested parties presentation, so I think we're all fine.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER]

Okay.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

There's time for one more question.

[Laughter]

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Um, I'm sorry. I missed part of the discussion about, that there was actually five different buildings as part of the CMRR complex. Could you restate that again, or go over that

[RICK HOLMES]

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Thank you.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

[Inaudible words] ... what about it Tim?

[TIM NELSON]

This is Tim Nelson. So, some of the reasons why those nine modules were picked, were as part of that exit strategy associated with the CMR Building. So when you asked the question earlier, I'm pretty sure it was you Scott, —

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Yeah.

[TIM NELSON]

—about the wings being closed, which ones are being closed. That has to do with the ability to move some of those processes into the rad lab.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

That makes sense.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER]

Okay, other questions, comments? We've got plenty of time right now.

[GREG MELLO]

Great presentation Scott. Um, let's see, you guys have a plan— Oh, my name, Greg Mello, Los Alamos Study Group. You guys have a plan for converting the RLUOB to a nuclear facility? And, can we have it?

[RICK HOLMES]

I don't have a plan— This is Rick. I don't have a plan

[Laughter]

[RICK HOLMES]

NNSA and the Lab have a plan. They have a plan, but—

[BRUCE MACALLISTER]

Here Steve. [Handing microphone]

[RICK HOLMES]

We know that.

[STEVE FONG]

Lot of options are considered, especially when you look at the balance of facilities. Right now. So I can say, yeah, there was some speculation on it. Can we increase the rad lab? But I can tell you directly, explicitly, that we are building a radiological facility as of today. We have not been given any direction, nor have we developed any plans for [the] rad lab to be anything other than a radiological facility. RLUOB is a radiological facility. Did I answer— Did I miss the question?

[GREGG MELLO]

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Yes. Yes. Thank you. So you would say that, um, I'm sorry. You are just saying that all that's gonna be done before, I mean, all that has to be done before the final design is in place? Right? I mean, everybody has to sign off on everything before the final design is, can proceed, right?

[TIM NELSON]

That was Scott [Kovac] and this is Tim [Nelson]. But I'm going to turn it to Rick [Holmes] because Rick's actually having discussions with the Board.

[Laughter]

[RICK HOLMES]

So the—

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS]

[INAUDIBLE COMMENTS AND LAUGHTER]

[RICK HOLMES]

And the Defense Board has to be satisfied. So the Defense Board has to be satisfied that they have adequate information so that they can say that they are comfortable that their issue has been resolved. And, I'm not sure exactly how many stacks of paper they'd need to do that. This is,— and, and the answer from your other question from before, I don't know of any other time when the Defense Board had to do this process. This is pretty early in the life cycle of a project for the Defense Board to formally issue this type of declaration, particularly to Congress. And so, I, they don't have a template in terms of how they've done this. It really becomes a "How much information do they think they need," so that they can be comfortable, not only that things are right, but as, as we proceed through final design, 'cause there's an awful lot of design work to go, to work out the details, there's an awful lot of vendor equipment to go learn about, and make sure that it can be qualified, etcetera, that we and the Department [of Energy], meaning the project end of the Department, are not going to go back and say, "Well we thought that it was going to have this kind of pedigree, but we learned that it can't." And that's—

[Few words missed as audiotape was changed.]

[GREG MELLO]

I, um, Steve [Fong] knows, and Tom [Whitacre] and, um, I really appreciate the quality of work which, um, has taken place on this project, on many other projects, we would all be a great deal less safe, and more money would be wasted if it wasn't such high quality work. But I want to express an opinion based on many years, um, of work, not just on the implementation of policy, but on vetting what missions are actually necessary for the overarching mission that drives this Laboratory, and that is that I am pretty sure that this building, the nuclear facility, or the five buildings, and, and the radiological facility, *are not needed now or ever*, to maintain a US nuclear deterrent, a very large and diverse deterrent for many decades. I don't think this building is needed now, at the very most, I don't think we can be sure that it's needed now. As you know, this is the view of the House of Representatives for the last five years, so it's not exactly a marginal view.

[GREG MELLO]

Ahm, it's a very large project you guys are doing, and, in fact, it's, using constant construction dollars, it's five times larger than any other public works project in the history of the State of New Mexico. Other than the two Interstate Highways which were done in pieces, and it's kinda hard to get those numbers so I don't have those, but, um, it's five times bigger than the next biggest, actually, uh, it's kind of a tie between DAHRT and the Rail Runner. But it is much bigger than the San Juan Chama project, Cochiti

CMRR Public Meeting
Wednesday, September 23, 2009
Best Western "Hilltop House", Los Alamos, NM
6:30 – 8:30pm

6:30 – 6:40	Welcome	B. MacAllister
6:40 – 7:10	CMRR Project Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Overview and Background• Project Update	R. Holmes
7:10 – 7:30	Questions	B. MacAllister
7:30 – 8:00	Settlement Parties Presentation	Settlement Parties
8:00 – 8:25	Questions	B. MacAllister
8:25 – 8:30	Closure & Adjourn	B. MacAllister

CMRR Public Meeting
Wednesday, March 3, 2010
Best Western "Hilltop House", Los Alamos, NM
6:30 – 8:30pm

6:30 – 6:40	Welcome	B. MacAllister
6:40 – 7:10	CMRR Project Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Overview and Background• Project Update	R. Holmes
7:10 – 7:30	Questions	B. MacAllister
7:30 – 8:00	Settlement Parties Presentation	Settlement Parties
8:00 – 8:25	Questions	B. MacAllister
8:25 – 8:30	Closure & Adjourn	B. MacAllister

Courtney Perkins. New Mexico Environment Department.

[MIKE WHEELER, LOS ALAMOS COUNTY COUNCILOR]
Mike Wheeler. Los Alamos County Councilor.

[ERICH KUERSCHNER, ECONOMISTS FOR PEACE AND SECURITY]
Erich Kuerschner. I live in Taos. I'm with Economists for Peace and Security.

[DANNY WILLIAMS, BRIDGE TO NOWHERE]
Dan Williams. I'm with the bridgetonowhere.org.

[BARBARA WILLIAMS, DARE TO DREAM NETWORK]
Barbara Williams. I'm the founder of the Dare to Dream Network.

[JAY COGHLAN, NUCLEAR WATCH NEW MEXICO]
Jay Coghlan, Nuke Watch New Mexico.

[SUSAN GORDON, ALLIANCE FOR NUCLEAR ACCOUNTABILITY]
Susan Gordon, Alliance for Nuclear Accountability.

[SCOTT KOVAK, NUCLEAR WATCH NEW MEXICO]
Scott Kovac, Nuclear Watch New Mexico.

[CHARLES WILLIAM (BILL) BLANKENSHIP, CHEMICAL ENGINEER, ECOLOGY AND AIR QUALITY GROUP, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION, LANL]
Bill Blankenship. I'm in the Laboratory's Ecology and Air Quality Group.

[MYRON KOOP, CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT, DIVISION OFFICE, LANL]
Myron Koop. I'm on the CMRR Project.

[SUSAN TERP, RISK REDUCTION OFFICE, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION, LANL]
Susan Terp. I'm with the Laboratory's Environmental Protection Division.

[CARL FROSTENSON, LABORATORY LEGAL COUNSEL, LANL]
Carl Frostenson. I'm with the Laboratory's Contract Assurance Office.

[TRISH WILLIAMS-MELLO, LOS ALAMOS STUDY GROUP]
Trish Williams-Mello with the Los Alamos Study Group.

[GREG MELLO, LOS ALAMOS STUDY GROUP]
Greg Mello, Los Alamos Study Group.

[NICOLE SEGUIN, CMRR PROJECT AND SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE, LANL]
Nicole Seguin, CMRR Project.

try to put out the best planning information possible. But it's time where we get to this Critical Decisions 2-3 where we have to package— that's at that time and moment we will use the best factors we have out there, and then lay it on out. That's the best we can do.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]
Other questions?

[GREG MELLO]
Steve, —

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]
Introduce yourself.

[GREG MELLO]
Oh sorry. Greg Mello. Do you, when you make these, um, cost estimates, um, are, what are the assumptions that you are using about concrete and steel and construction costs? Are they— sort of assuming they are flat from here on out? Or you build it a certain percent, since it's volatile, you can't really tell, but, what are your assumptions in short?

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]
Sure. Well, Rick?

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]
This is Rick. Because my team is responsible for trying to put something together. So you start with what you know today. Try to estimate what escalation factors are going to be for prices of commodities for years in the future, and I don't know— Commodity prices are gonna go up. I don't know when.

[GREG MELLO]
What do you use?

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]
So, today we have used, DOE has published escalation factors. And, I think, because they are somebody's best estimate to begin with, that's what we start with when we give that information to DOE. And they have actually published those. I think they are in, I think they are avail— I don't think they are secret or anything. Ahm, and right now they currently go to 2018. And so one assumption you have to make is, because they are flat in rate, they are about 2.1 or 2.4 percent, out in those years, and you, the assumption you have to make is that they stay at the same rate as they are going forward. So, when we give an estimate to DOE, we use their escalation rate.

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]
So you don't assume everything's gonna stay the same. You don't assume they are gonna go down, they are gonna go up. Because if a building of this size, in terms of quantities we are talking about, and for example, we are talking about, about a hundred and thirty thousand cubic yards of concrete in a building. Um, and Portland cement, which is a key component of concrete,

can often wind up going places around the world where the world market will tend to drive availability of some of those materials as you go forward. And that's a variable that you cannot plan for. So part of that chart that I showed you, that talked about baselining the last portion of the job, which is gonna have the biggest dollar values in it because it's the balance of the facility. In 2014, is intended to provide the Department [of Energy], and then ultimately the Department's commitment to Congress with certainty that, yes, we know enough at that point, it's a short enough duration that we can then not have to assume what escalation gonna be, we can go buy it right away, put it in the warehouse, put it in the laydown space, and manage, and manage in that particular way.

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]

Probably a longer answer than you wanted.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]

Okay. Follow up?

[GREG MELLO]

Yeah. Uh, do you have a published lifecycle cost for the facility, as per your [word missing] order.

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]

There was a lifecycle cost— So the answer is, “Yes, it is being updated.” There was one that was done back in the early days of the project as part of the DOE decision process. That number gets updated. My team is now trying to prepare for, an NNSA review of the costs of at least our current plan, so they can figure out what they need to program in budget space, ‘cause you have to be ahead of commitments in budget space to give it a Congressional cycle. For example, DOE's input into the budget process for Fiscal Year '12 has to be done in July. So, it's a— We are doing some of that work now for programming space. And that lifecycle cost would be updated as part of that, as part of that exercise.

[STEVE FONG]

I think the last one, Jay, er Greg, was, uh, 2005.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]

Okay.

[DANNY WILLIAMS, BRIDGE TO NOWHERE]

Dan Williams with Bridge to Nowhere again. My second part of that question was, uh, basically, ya'know, the world is trying to reduce nuclear. Ahm, we really don't need it. And even the president is on that wave length. Why is it that we're moving forward with making more of these triggers? I mean, what do we need 'em for?

[STEVE FONG]

Well. That's a big question. There's a lot of thoughts to all that. And, uh, first of all, the, the budget request for FY '11 and the planning numbers that go forward from '11 to now, I think, '15 or '16 are the administration's requirements. That is part of the president's request for this. I

Um, I listed the questions that you raised in your presentation here [on the flip chart] so that there's, if you'd like to spend the question and answer time going over these first, or, uh, shall we respond to these first? Or, go ahead get the other questions?

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Go ahead and finish the questions you've got.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]

Okay.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Yeah.

[GREG MELLO, NUCLEAR WATCH NEW MEXICO]

Scott, thanks very much. This was a, this is a suggestion. In looking at the square footage of the CMRR versus the CMR, um, look at the square footage of the existing CMR and it's existing missions. A lot of that square footage has already been shut down in the existing building and a lot is soon to be shut down. And this is a kind of a big mystery as to just what's being replaced here, and I, I think that will expand on your analysis and, um, make it even better.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]

Response to that?

[SCOTT KOVAK]

Yes please. Yes, thank you. Greg [Mello]. Yes. Many of the wings maybe three or four of the existing wings of the CMR Building are presently empty. And have been shut down. Thank you.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]

Other questions relating to the presentation? Okay.

[ERICH KUERSCHNER]

My name is Erich Kuerschner and I'm an economist and I wanna thank Scott [Kovac] for the presentation. And I'm especially interested in his thoughts on, let's see, what thought has been given to making the nuclear facility smaller.

[Interested Party Slide 12]

[ERICH KUERSCHNER]

And in that respect, I want to expand and just tell a little story. And I think, uh, what I was really troubled with tonight, the rest of this issue in the EIS [environmental impact statement] and under the NEPA statement, and I just didn't get a satisfactory response. And I learned my economics under Armand Alchain and all that bunch at UCLA, worked at Rand initially, and, uh, uh, the first thing that you learn when you are an Alchain student, is any time you see a need, look at it as being an obfuscation in terms of what, what, a, a conclusion being reached before the analysis has been done. And, ya'know, like he says, originally the CMRR, Congress determined it wasn't required unless the Reliable Warhead was to be needed, and so I'm just really troubled by not being able to get economist or social science in this thing.

activities, 65%, if we maybe even move just about half of that down to the renewable energy, we all would have electricity.

[SCOTT KOVAK]

Yes.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]

Scott, comment.

[SCOTT KOVAK]

Yes, it's been our, ya'know, many of our positions, that, uh, the, the people at the Lab could do other things with the money. We especially believe that the Laboratory would be really good at nuclear nonproliferation.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS]

[Inaudible voices off microphone.]

[GREG MELLO]

Scott, just one other comment about this, um, about making the nuclear facility smaller. And about the 2002 mission need. It was, um, it was pretty clear in 2002 that, I think you condensed what you're trying to say a little bit, and so it didn't all come out, but there really wasn't any mission need in 2002 either. Ahm, there was a stated mission need, but, um, for making RRWs [reliable replacement warheads], but of course there wasn't a need to make RRWs and so there wasn't a mission need for the building. Um, the, on the matter of making a smaller nuclear facility, it gets hard, as you know, you know the building is something, the labs are something like eight percent of the square footage of the building. It begins to be all shell and no nut. And, it, um, it's an interesting question from Erich's [Kuerschner] perspective what, how, what is the, what is the real benefit of, of this building, just even, I mean when you get the building where it's nearly all concrete, structure, utilities, fans, equipment, and there's very little actual usable space in the building left, and it has to be built that way so it can be safe, then you really, that should be a signal then, to go back to Eric's question, and say, maybe we should look at this whole thing de novo, again. I think it's probably quite hard to shrink. They've—

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]

Comment too?

[SCOTT KOVAK]

Ah yes, thank you Greg. I agree with you. I'm still not even convinced that the, ya'know, the facility, the operations that are planned for the new nuclear facility can be absorbed in the existing rad lab and the existing plutonium facility. And, we haven't really seen those numbers or been shown that, um, ya'know, demonstration, demonstrated to us how those numbers can not work yet.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]

Follow-on question? Then you sir.

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]

And I don't know anything about the cap at Area G. I just know they need dirt.

[Laughter]

[BRUCE MACALLISTER]

Just a second. We've got, we've got one—

[GREG MELLO]

Is any of that soil contaminated? Have you measured it for radionuclides, heavy metals, volatiles?

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]

So, we are down, in time, in geologic time, we are looking at about 10 to 15 million years ago in time. So, I don't think—I know there's been soil samples done. I don't think they found anything of that type. We are way below the depth of any, any manmade activity.

[GREG MELLO]

Two hundred and twenty-five thousand cubic yards of soil removed. What will that be replaced with, and that's obviously more than 130,000 cubic yards of concrete?

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]

Uh, yeah, that's— This is Rick, and I'll probably just keep bouncing back and forth in terms of, I'm the guy that sounds like Dan Aykroyd. So, um—

[Laughter]

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]

Or he sounds like me. Um, so, the plan today is we'll replace it with lean concrete. So that's, uh, that's concrete without stone. And that'll give us an adequate, it's got Portland cement and sand and water and, essentially all the right materials, no aggregate in it. That will provide an adequate certainty of the characteristics so that any question that someone would ask in terms of, "Well how do you know what's going underneath the building is okay, uh, is okay?" Um, so that is not part of the 130,000 cubic yards of structural concrete in the building, but it would also come from a batch plant type operation. So, back on—

[JONI ARENDS]

So, Rick, just a clarifying question. So where are those reports. Where's your work plan? How do we get ahold of it to be able to review it?

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]

So we are putting together that design now. So, um, it's still in process. In fact, engineers were in my office today where I approved of the release of the design work, so that'll be a future activity, and as we get that, we'll come in and talk about it.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

in terms of size. The laboratory footprint, which is a major portion of the building structure, if you started to remove individual laboratories, said I don't want that capability, Greg's [Mello] point is right that the building is not gonna change much in terms of size if you do that, because it's full in the basement with the ventilation system and the utility structure that's above that.

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]

When the building went from 40,000 square feet of laboratory space down to the 22,500 square feet of laboratory space that's in there today, you might have been able to at that point, but no one had a design for that structure, been able to contemplate, yes, if I take away, then it could get smaller. The utility structure of the auxiliary building, we did make bigger from an operations and a constructability review. 'Cause we had stuff that was just packed too tight. So, I've already had, looking at the design, to make sure that there's room to get the valves and get the gauges and do the right work that has to be done inside of there. We had maintenance people from TA-55. I brought in external maintenance people. I had construction people look at it to make sure that they felt like that there was adequate clearance. And as part of that exercise, I made that building a little bit bigger to give them the room that they thought they needed to get the stuff. Now, it's gonna be full. 'Cause they always wind up full. So, we have done some of those things to make the building footprint bigger. I think we're at the point where we're about to freeze that portion of the design, so that it's not gonna change very much at all from here.

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]

I'm not gonna get into the comparisons to other facilities, because we could have that discussion for a really long time. In terms of what footprint do I count? Because I'm building a training center, do I count the training complex that's in Los Alamos town that I'm gonna not use any more as part of the footprint, and all that stuff. But I think our footprint is pretty much getting close to being stable in terms of size, and others, in terms of things. That was a source of change as we did go through some things.

[RICHARD A. HOLMES]

The, the, in the contingency number, in the data sheet that NNSA had sent, they are showing that number at about \$700 million dollars of contingency. At this stage of a project, having 25 or 30% contingency in your plan is smart. If I came in here and told you I know everything I need to know to go build this job, you should have me fired. 'Cause I don't. Nobody, nobody can. And so, having that contingency— That was not an offer, by the way.

[Laughter]

[RICK HOLMES]

Joni's back there laughing. I mean it's— So,

[JONI ARENDS]

It's an astronomical amount of money.

those kind of things in there. You can make that, you can make that story kinda go either way, I think.

[STEVE FONG]

I think that the story is that, in terms of programmatic space, if you look at— And we tried doing this in pie charts last time, and time before, and we ended up comparing apples and oranges. But, the numbers I kind of judge, was it's about 130,000 gross square feet of current programmatic space in CMR. We're placing 19,500 in radiological space and 22,500 in the nuclear facility, so that's roughly about what? 40,000 square feet? So there's programmatically, the amount of programmatic space is going down significantly. But the requirements for all of the safety systems that we have to design on in makes this nut, rather as Greg's [Mello] noted, rather large and robust. So, uh, that is reduction of programmatic space, greater footprint. But then again, when you start adding apples and oranges, and the nuclear facility, we are adding in interstitial space, whether or not that's actual operating space, and stuff in the basement, that you typically don't go in, but it does have a floor and walls, count that as hard space. So there are things that really go into that equation that makes it an apple and orange type of, of comparison.

[BRUCE MACALLISTER, FACILITATOR]

Okay, we have about five minutes left. I've got two people right now in the cue for questions. Three. So.

[DAVE MCCOY]

Yes, looking at this—

[MORRISON BENNETT, TRANSCRIBER]

Name?

[DAVE MCCOY]

Ah, Dave McCoy. Looking at this from a legal perspective, it seems to me that when you are talking about excavating this large volume of material, and— It seems that you have basically, ah, changing designs, changing awareness and recognition of seismic hazards that weren't previously identified, ah, you've got new traffic concerns, new air concerns, ah, It just seems to me that you need to take another look at, at least, a supplement to your EA. Ah, you need to redo it, you need to re-open it to the public. There's plenty of public concern here. You can't deny that. I think you need to be looking at, at uh, the EIS for this business, 'cause you've got some substantial changes that you've made here.

[DAVE MCCOY]

That's a question. Oh—

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Uh, what's the question?

[STEVE FONG]

Cindy [Blackwell], we have an EIS for the CMR facility 2004. I think I wanna say November or February. I get those dates for five years. And then the, that looked at the construction impacts